

Existing constitution provides that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) is composed of 11 members, eight elected from single-member districts and three appointed by the governor from the state at large.

Prior law divided the state into eight districts for election of BESE members.

New law redraws district boundaries for the eight BESE districts based on the new ideal district population of 566,671 people. The relative overall deviation in population for the new districts is 9.94%. Districts 2 and 8 are maintained as majority minority districts.

For purposes of qualifying and election in 2011, new districts became effective upon signature of governor (May 31, 2011). For all other purposes, prior districts remain in effect until noon, Jan. 9, 2012, when new districts become effective for all other purposes.

New law specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions are those precincts identified as Voting Districts (VTDs) in the 2010 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shapefiles for the state of La. Also specifies that if any such precinct has been subdivided by action of the parish governing authority on a nongeographic basis or subdivided by action of the parish governing authority on a geographic basis in accordance with existing law, the enumeration of the general precinct designation shall include all nongeographic and all geographic subdivisions thereof. Further provides that the territorial limits of the districts as enacted shall continue in effect without change regardless of any changes made to the precincts by the parish governing authority.

Effective in part upon signature of governor (May 31, 2011); effective in part at noon, Jan. 9, 2012. See Act.

(Adds R.S. 17:2.1; Repeals R.S. 17:2.2)